

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are currently pending. Claims 1, 20, 21 and 22 are amended.
Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the indication of the allowable subject matter (of Claims 15-19) made in the outstanding Office Action. The Examiner's prompt indication of the allowability of this subject matter is greatly appreciated.

102 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 11, 12, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sampietro et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,157,116). Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submit that the embodiments of the present invention as are set forth in Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 11, 12, 20 and 21 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Sampietro et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,157,116).

The Examiner is respectfully directed to independent Claim 1. Claim 1 is reproduced below for the examiner's convenience:

1. (currently amended) A data storage device comprising:
a housing;
a storage medium;
a motor drive for moving the storage medium within the housing;
a transducer for accessing the storage medium wherein said transducer produces a waveform within said housing; an actuator for positioning the transducer with respect to the storage medium;
and noise reduction means integrated within the housing for actively reducing acoustic noise. (emphasis added)

Claims 20 and 21 recite limitations similar to those that distinguish Claim 1. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 11 and 12 depend on Claim 1 and set forth additional limitations of the claimed invention.

Sampietro et al. does not anticipate or render obvious a noise reduction system for a disk drive that includes “a transducer for accessing the storage medium wherein said transducer generates a waveform within said housing” and wherein an actuator actually positions the transducer with respect to the storage medium as is set forth in Claim 1. Sampietro et al. only teaches a system for eliminating noise that is derived from structural vibrations and that involves the coupling of vibrations onto the physical structure of the housing of a disk drive. In contrast to the system disclosed by Sampietro et al., noise reduction is effected in exemplary embodiments of the Applicants’ invention by the generation of an acoustic waveform by a transducer (that can be positioned by an actuator) as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claims 20 and 21 contain similar limitations). The Applicants’ respectfully submit that nowhere in the Sampietro et al. reference is it taught or suggested that noise be reduced in such a manner. Consequently, Sampietro et al. does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the Applicants’ invention as are set forth in Claims 1, 20 and 21.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 20 and 21 overcome the basis for their rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 1, 20 and 21 are in condition for allowance. In addition, Sampietro et al. does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present invention as are set forth in Claims 2-3, 5, 6, 11 and 12 which depend from independent Claims 1. Moreover, Claims 2-3, 5, 6, 11 and 12 are likewise in condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

103 Rejection

Claims 4, 7, 8 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sampietro et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,157,116) in view of Eatwell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,828,768). Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submit that the embodiments of the present invention as are recited in Claims 4, 7, 8 and 22 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Sampietro et al. in view of Eatwell et al.

The Examiner is respectfully directed to independent Claim 1. Claim 1 is reproduced below for the examiner's convenience:

1. (currently amended)A data storage device comprising:
a housing;
a storage medium;
a motor drive for moving the storage medium within the housing;
a transducer for accessing the storage medium wherein said transducer produces a waveform within said housing; an actuator for positioning the transducer with respect to the storage medium;
and noise reduction means integrated within the housing for actively reducing acoustic noise. (emphasis added)

Claim 22 recites limitations similar to those that distinguish Claim 1. Claims 4, 7 and 8 depend on Claim 1 and recite additional limitations of the claimed invention.

Sampietro et al. does not anticipate or render obvious a noise reduction system for a disk drive that includes “a transducer for accessing the storage medium wherein said transducer generates a waveform within said housing” and wherein an actuator positions the transducer with respect to the storage medium. Sampietro et al. only teaches a system for eliminating noise that is derived from structural vibrations that involves the coupling of vibrations onto the physical structure of the housing of a disk drive. In contrast to the system disclosed by Sampietro et al., noise reduction is effected in exemplary embodiments of the Applicants' invention by the generation of an acoustic waveform by a transducer that can be

positioned by an actuator as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claim 22 contains similar limitations).

The Applicants' respectfully submit that nowhere in the Sampietro et al. reference is it taught or suggested that noise be reduced in such a manner. Consequently, Sampietro et al. does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the Applicants' invention as are set forth in Claims 1 and 22.

Eatwell et al. does not teach or suggest a modification of Sampietro et al. that would remedy the deficiencies of Sampietro et al. outlined above. More specifically, the cited combination of Sampietro et al. and Eatwell et al. does not anticipate or render obvious a system for reducing noise in a hard disk drive that includes "a transducer for accessing the storage medium wherein said transducer produces an acoustic waveform within said housing" as is set forth in the claims 1 and 22. In contrast, Eatwell et al. only shows a multi-media personal computer that includes an active noise reduction system. Consequently, Sampietro et al. and Eatwell et al. either alone or in combination does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the Applicants' invention as are set forth in Claims 1 and 22.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1 and 22 overcome the basis for their rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 1 and 22 are in condition for allowance. In addition, Sampietro et al. in view of Eatwell et al. does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present invention as are recited in Claims 4, 7 and 8, as these Claims are dependent upon allowable Claim 1.

Claims 9, 10, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sampietro et al in view of McLean. McLean does not teach or suggest a modification of Sampietro et al. that would remedy the deficiencies of Sampietro et al outlined above. More specifically, the cited combination of Sampietro et al. and McLean does not anticipate or render obvious a system for reducing noise in a hard disk drive that includes "a transducer for

accessing the storage medium wherein said transducer produces an acoustic waveform within said housing” as is set forth in the Claim 1 from which Claims 9, 10, 13 and 14 depend. In contrast, McLean only shows a system for offline control of automotive noise. Consequently, Sampietro et al. and McLean either alone or in combination do not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the Applicants’ invention as are set forth in Claims 9, 10, 13 and 14.

Conclusion

In light of the above-listed amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the remaining Claims.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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